

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 07761 020647Z
ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJ: USG OBSERVANCE OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REBIRTH
OF THE POLISH NATION.

1. I WISH TO CALL ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND ICA TO
THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REBRITH OF THE POLISH NATION,
WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE NOVEMBER 3, 1978.
2. POLISH AND SOVIET MEDIA WILL PROBABLY PORTRAY THE RE-
ESTABLISHMENT OF POLAND FOLLOWING WW I AS DUE MAINLY TO
THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION AND LENIN'S POLITICAL SKILL.

3. WHAT SHOULD THE USG DO? THE ANNIVERSARY AFFORDS US
AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECALL UNITED STATES' EFFORTS IN
1917-18 TO PROMOTE SELF-DETERMINATION IN EASTERN
EUROPE. WE COULD, FOR EXAMPLE, POINT OUT THAT IT WAS
U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, AS ENUNCIATED IN PRESIDENT WILSON'S
FOURTEEN POINTS (THE THIRTEENTH POINT PERTAINS
SPECIFICALLY TO POLAND), TO SEE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF A
FREE POLISH NATION. WE COULD ALSO NOTE THAT WILSON'S
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PAGE 02 WARSAW 07761 020647Z

POLICY OF SELF DETERMINATION WAS ONE OF THE SIGNAL
POLITICAL IDEAS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, A CONCEPT
WHICH ENRICHED THE FOREIGN POLICY OF SEVERAL AMERICAN
ADMINISTRATIONS FOLLOWING WORLD WAR I. DISCUSSION OF
THE WILSONIAN POLICY OF SELF-DETERMINATION ALSO PRO-
VIDES US WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE
CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY IN GENERAL,

AND IN PARTICULAR AS IT PERTAINS TO EASTERN EUROPE, IS
FIRMLY ROOTED IN AMERICAN TRADITION.

4. ACTION REQUESTED - WE SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT
AND ICA RECOMMEND TO THE WHITE HOUSE A PRESIDENTIAL
STATEMENT NOTING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF POLAND'S RE-
BIRTH AS A NATION AND REFLECTING U.S. SUPPORT FOR
EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE POLISH INDEPENDENCE. THE STATEMENT
(OR, ALTERNATIVELY, A SPEECH BY A HIGH-LEVEL ADMINI-
STRATION OFFICIAL) COULD ALSO REAFFIRM THE USG
POLICY OF ENCOURAGING A MORE INDEPENDENT POLAND.
IF THE WHITE HOUSE AGREES TO ISSUE A STATEMENT, A FILM
OR VIDEOTAPE OF THE OCCASION FOR POSSIBLE USE ON
POLISH TV MIGHT ALSO BE CONSIDERED. WE ARE PREPARED
TO APPROACH THE POLES REGARDING SUCH A
POSSIBLE BRIEF TELECAST IF THE DEPARTMENT, ICA, AND
THE WHITE HOUSE ARE INTERESTED.

5. EMBASSY HAS ALREADY MADE SEVERAL OTHER SUGGESTIONS
FOR AMERICAN ACTIVITIES ON THIS OCCASION; THOSE
INCLUDE ARTICLES IN AMERYKA MAGAZINE, VOA BACKGROUND
REPORTS AND INTERVIEWS, WINDOW DISPLAYS AT THE
EMBASSY AND CONSULATES AND POSSIBLE LECTURES BY A
WILSONIAN SCHOLAR IN POLAND.

6. WE ARE ALSO FORWARDING A SEPARATE RECOMMENDATION TO
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PAGE 03 WARSAW 07761 020647Z

ICA ABOUT ESTABLISHING AN ANNUAL WOODROW WILSON
SCHOLARSHIP TO SEND A DISTINGUISHED POLISH SCHOLAR
TO AN APPROPRIATE AMERICAN ACADEMIC INSTITUTION,
POSSIBLY THE WOODROW WILSON SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS AT PRINCETON OR THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION'S
WILSON CENTER.

7. I AM ALSO PLANNING TO NOTE U.S. EFFORTS TO RE-ESTABLISH
THE POLISH NATION IN A SPEECH WHICH I AM TO DELIVER TO
THE POLISH JOURNALISTS' CLUB IN WARSAW IN LATE OCTOBER
OR EARLY NOVEMBER.
SCHAUFEL

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